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One of Israel's earliest and most infamous "false flag" terrorist operations intended to be blamed on "Muslim fundamentalists" was targeted to bring down the secular regime of Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

HE CUNNING OF THE NEANDERTHAL

A History of `False Flags'

IN 1954 THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT UNVEILED A COVERT PLOT by Israel's intelligence agency, the Mossad, to blame terrorist attacks conducted by Israeli agents against British and American targets in the Middle East on "Muslim extremists." This insidious and sordid operation -- which Israel formally and repeatedly denied for fully 50 years until finally admitting that this was not a "conspiracy theory from the Arab world" but was indeed a fact -- not only foreshadowed future such "false flag" operations by Israel but also raises the serious question that the world needs to address: Can the morals, methods and intentions of the Jewish state and its supporters ever be trusted at all?

By Michael Collins Piper

In 1954, the leaders of the new state of Israel, then only six years old, found themselves in a quandary. Israel's *bete noire*, Egypt's outspoken, charismatic President Gamal Abdul Nasser-a hero in the wide Arab world-was forging friendly relations with the United States and Britain.

To Israel's further dismay, the State Department of U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower was perceived by Israel to be dominated by forces friendly to Nasser and the Arab world.

One year earlier, Israel's first prime minister, its founding father, David Ben-Gurion, had just retired. Ben-Gurion had also been minister of defense. As prime minister he was succeeded by Moshe Sharett. Taking Ben-Gurion's post as defense minister was Pinchas Lavon. However, under Lavon in the defense ministry remained two Ben-Gurion loyalists, Simon Peres, director-general of the Israeli Defense Ministry, and Moshe Dayan, the military chief of staff.

The changing of the guard led to inevitable changes in the direction of policy, and just as in any ruling elite in any country, there were conflicts between the various factions in Israel's multi-factional political establishment.

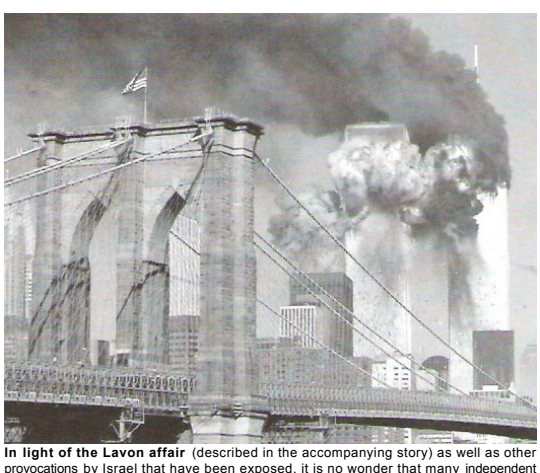
There was another wrinkle: not only was Egypt's Nasser favorably inclined toward friendly relations with Israel, but also, Israel's new prime minister -- Sharett -- was, according to many sources, open to peace negotiations with his Arab neighbors, a policy that angered more hard-line Israeli forces that rejected any rapprochement with Nasser.

The internal Israeli dispute over the best way to approach the perceived "slant" by the U.S. and Britain toward the Nasser regime became a source of controversy and led to what ultimately became known as "the Lavon Affair," although Lavon himself was far from being the only player in this tangled web of intrigue, as we shall see.

The circumstances of the Lavon affair say much about Israel's determination to chart its own course, often independent even of its foreign friends. In addition, the facts about the affair cast real doubt as to whether, even from the beginning, Israel truly was the great American "ally" it is said to be.

In July of 1954 there were a series of bombings in Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt. Among the targets were the libraries of the U.S. Information Service in both cities.

In fact, the bombings were a covert operation by Israeli Military Intelligence who hoped both Egyptian President Nasser and the outside world would believe the attacks were carried out by militant Muslim fundamentalists who were angry at Nasser's friendly relations with both the United States and the British government.



In light of the Lavon affair (described in the accompanying story) as well as other provocations by Israel that have been exposed, it is no wonder that many independent researchers and, notably, Dr. Alan Sabrosky, former director of studies at the U.S. Army War College, believe that Israel's Mossad was the prime mover behind the 9-11 terror attacks. See the insert in the center of this issue [Editor's Note: The May/June 2010 *Barnes Review*] for a concise booklet on 9-11.

The Israelis hoped Nasser's relationships with the U.S. and Britain would be destabilized and that this would compel British to withdrawal from their bases on the Suez Canal (In the end, no British targets were actually bombed, the initial plan notwithstanding.)

According to a later statement by Col. Benjamin Gibli, Israel's chief of military intelligence and the senior Israeli army officer responsible for sending the final signal to Cairo to initiate the bombings, he had been given his orders orally by Defense Minister Lavon at a private meeting. Gibli related Lavon's instructions as follows:

> [Our goal is] to break the West's confidence in the existing [Egyptian] regime ... The actions should cause arrests, demonstrations, and expressions of revenge. The Israeli origin should be totally covered while attention should be shifted to any other possible factor. The purpose is to prevent economic and military aid from the West to Egypt. The choice of the precise objectives to be sabotaged will be left to the men on the spot, who should evaluate the possible consequences of each action ... in terms of creating commotion and public disorders.

Although it is clear that this was the intent of Gibli's superiors, Lavon later denied any oral instructions were ever given and that Gibli ordered the bombings on his own.

The operatives who placed the bombs were Egyptian Jews working for Israeli intelligence and because the plan had been executed so poorly, with little regard for adequate security, virtually all of the bottom-rung participants in the plot (eleven people) were picked up by Egyptian security.

What is interesting, though, according to authors Andrew and Leslie Cockburn, writing in *Dangerous Liaison: The Inside Story of the US.-Israeli Covert Relationship:* "There is a plausible theory that the Egyptian operation was orchestrated by Ben-Gurion and Dayan not only to create problems between the Western powers and Nasser but also to drive a spear through the heart of Sharrett's peace negotiations. The chief of the team inside Egypt, who escaped and survived, has been quoted as saying that he believed the operation had been set up to fail and that it had been betrayed.

They Dare to Speak Out . . .

In recent years-particularly as the world has watched Zionist power rising to a dizzying height on American shores and as mankind has seen Israel's butchery of innocent men, women and children escalate as never before -- a growing number of prominent and respected intellectuals have begun to openly challenge the Neanderthal-like barbarism being witnessed.

For example, beloved Greek composer, former government minister and parliamentarian Mikis Theodorakis -- long a voice for human rights -- openly slammed the practices of Israel and its supporters around the globe. Although he was roundly criticized, Theodorakis came back at his critics and said in an interview with Israel's newspaper *Ha'aretz*:

> I didn't say that Jews are the root of evil. I said that they are at the root of evil. Jews want to feel that they are victims. They want to console themselves by saying: We are in the right, we are victims again, let's build another ghetto. This is a masochistic reaction. There is a masochistic mentality in Jewish tradition.
>
> I am sure that when Jews of the diaspora speak amongst themselves, they feel satisfaction. They think -- now, when we are so close to the world's biggest nation, no one can harm us. We can do whatever we like. This is why their claim about [a new rise in] anti-semitism is not only sick. It is devious. It allows the Jews to do whatever they will. It serves as an excuse politically as well as psychologically.

Another internationally respected figure, Portuguese writer Jose Saramago -- a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in the field of literature -- took on global Zionism in the Spanish newspaper *El Pais*. He said:

> Intoxicated mentally by the messianic dream of a Greater Israel which will finally achieve the expansionist dreams of the most radical Zionism; contaminated by the monstrous and rooted "certitude" that in this catastrophic and absurd world there exists a people chosen by God and that, consequently, all the actions of an obsessive, psychological and pathologically exclusivist racism are justified; educated and trained in the idea that any suffering that has been inflicted, or is being inflicted, or will be inflicted on everyone else, especially the Palestinians, will always be inferior to that which they themselves suffered in the Holocaust, the Jews endlessly scratch their own wound to keep it bleeding, to make it incurable, and they show it to the world as if it were a banner.

What is disturbing to those who hold Israel and its supporters in high esteem is that they cannot so easily dismiss the likes of Theodorakis and Saramago as "Nazi apologists" or "right-wing extremists."

What's more, the fact is that increasing numbers of intellectuals across the globe share the concerns expressed by Theodorakis and Saramago and they, too, are daring to speak out.

What's more, although the plot was carried out through Israel's military, the evidence suggests Israel's intelligence service, the Mossad, had a major part in the planning, adding another layer of bureaucratic intrigue. In fact, according to intelligence historian Richard Deacon, the Mossad was "certainly involved in the plot ... but the subsequent blame for the series of disasters was most unfortunately pinned on the Ministry of Defense .. "

In any case, eleven people were caught and scheduled for trial by Egypt, sparking a major international uproar. In Israel, Prime Minister Sharett claimed this was an anti-Jewish provocation by the Egyptians and a "show trial" against innocent Jews who were victims of "false accusations."

In the end, two were executed. The others were sentenced to long prison terms.

Should there be any question that the Lavon Affair demonstrated, beyond any doubt, Israel's duplicity and its capacity to betray even its friends in America, note this: in March of 2005, the Israeli President Moshe Katsav publicly (and with much fanfare) honored the nine surviving Jewish terrorists who played a role in the sordid affair. The Israeli leader presented each with a certificate of appreciation.

This was the first formal acknowledgment -- after 50 full years of repeated and vocal denial by the Israeli government and by defenders of Israel-that Israel had indeed conducted terrorism against the United States of America, designed as a classic "false flag" to blame Muslim fundamentalists for the crime.

We can only wonder if in the year 2051 (should Israel survive until then) -- fifty years after the 9/11 attack on America Israel will admit to its behind-the-scenes role in orchestrating that tragedy and honor whatever surviving Jewish operatives who were involved in 9/11 -- an event from which only Israel, as a nation, benefitted.

MICHAEL COLLINS PIPER is a frequent contributor to **THE BARNES REVIEW** and the author of ***Final Judgment: The Missing Link in the JFK Assassination Conspiracy*** ($25), called the definitive work on the JFK execution. He is also the author of ***The New Jerusalem: Zionist Power in America*** ($19.95) and ***The High Priests of War*** ($19.95). Order any of these books from TBR BOOK CLUB by calling 1-877-773-9077 toll free and charging to Visa or MasterCard. TBR'subscribers take 10% off book prices. Add $3 per book S&H.